



United States  
General Accounting Office  
Washington, D.C. 20548

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Accounting and Information  
Management Division

B-280212

June 16, 1998

The Honorable Henry J. Hyde  
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary  
House of Representatives

Subject: Federally Chartered Corporation: Review of the Financial Statement  
Audit Report for the American Gold Star Mothers, Incorporated, for  
Fiscal Year 1997

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As requested, we reviewed the audit report covering the financial statements of the American Gold Star Mothers, Incorporated, a federally chartered corporation, for the year ended June 30, 1997. The corporation was established in 1928 for the purpose of perpetuating the ideals of Americanism for which members' relatives fought and died.

Federally chartered corporations are required under 36 U.S.C. 1102-1103 to

- present the corporation's assets and liabilities and reasonable detail on the corporation's income and expenses in annual financial statements,
- obtain an annual financial audit by an independent public accountant, and
- submit the auditor's report and the corporation's financial statements to the Congress not later than 6 months following the close of the corporation's fiscal year.

The objective of our review was to determine whether the audit report complied with the financial reporting requirements of the law. In carrying out our work, we reviewed the corporation's financial statements and the accompanying notes, performed certain analytical procedures related to information presented in the financial statements, reviewed the auditor's report, and made inquiries to corporation officials or the auditor as deemed necessary. We did not review the auditor's working papers. During our review, nothing came to our attention that would cause us to believe that the financial reporting requirements of the law have not been met.

GAO/AIMD-98-199R American Gold Star Mothers, Incorporated

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The audit report included the auditor's opinion that the financial statements of the corporation, presented on a cash basis of accounting, are fairly stated. We are returning the audit report you sent with your letter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David L. Clark". The signature is written in black ink and includes a stylized star-like flourish at the end of the name.

David L. Clark  
Director, Audit Oversight and Liaison

(w/o enclosure)

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